AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

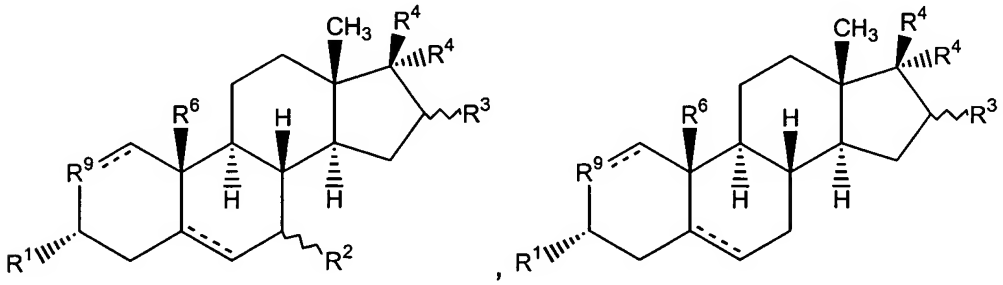
25. (original): A composition comprising 16α-bromo-3β-hydroxy-5α-androstan-17-one, 16α-bromo-2-oxa-3β-hydroxy-5α-androstan-17-one, 16α-bromo-3β-hydroxy-11-oxa-5α-androstan-17-one or 16α-bromo-3β-hydroxy-5α-androstan-17-one hemihydrate and one or more nonaqueous liquid excipients, wherein the composition comprises less than about 3% v/v water.

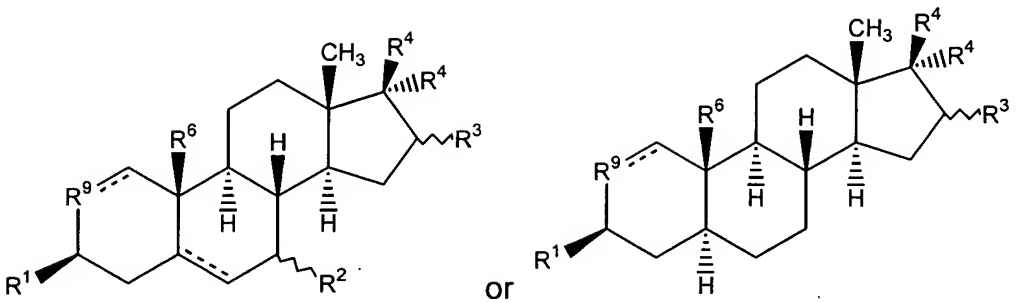
26. (original): The composition of claim 25 wherein the composition comprises less than about 0.3% v/v water.

27. (original): The composition of claim 25 wherein the one or more nonaqueous liquid excipients are two or more of an alcohol, a polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol and benzyl benzoate.

28. (original): The composition of claim 25 wherein the composition is a parenteral formulation.

29. (new): A method to treat a human or a primate having an innate immune suppression condition, wherein the method comprises administering an effective amount of a compound to the subject whereby the numbers or activity of neutrophils in the human or primate is increased, wherein the compound has the structure





wherein, the dotted lines are optional double bonds and the hydrogen atom at the 5-position, if present, is in the α-configuration;

R^1 is -H, -OH, -SH, $-NH_2$, =NOH, $=NOC(O)CH_3$, an ester, a thioester, a phosphoester, a phosphothioester, a phosphonoester, a phosphiniester, a sulfite ester, a sulfate ester, an amino acid, a peptide, an ether, a thioether, a carbonate, a carbamate or a thioacetal;

R^2 is -H, -OH, $-OR^{PR}$, -SH, $-SR^{PR}$, =S, $=CH_2$, $-N_3$, -CN, $-NO_2$, =NOH, $=NOC(O)CH_3$, an ester, a thioester, a phosphoester, a phosphothioester, a phosphonoester, a phosphiniester, a sulfite ester, a sulfate ester, an amide, an ether, a thioether, an acyl group, a thioacyl group, a carbonate, a carbamate, a thioacetal, an optionally substituted alkyl group, an optionally substituted alkenyl group or an optionally substituted alkynyl group;

R^3 is -H, -OH, -SH, =S, $=CH_2$, $-N_3$, $-NH_2$, -CN, $-NO_2$, =NOH, $=NOC(O)CH_3$, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, an ester, a thioester, a thioacetal, an ether or a thioether;

R^4 independently are -H, -OH, $-OR^{PR}$, =O, -SH, $-SR^{PR}$, =S, $=CH_2$, $-N_3$, $-NH_2$, $-N(R^{PR})_2$, =NOH, $=NOC(O)CH_3$, $-C(O)-CH_3$, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, an ester, a thioester, a phosphoester, a phosphothioester, a phosphonoester, a phosphiniester, a sulfite ester, a sulfate ester, an amide, an amino acid, a peptide, an ether, a thioether, a carbonate, a carbamate, a thioacetal, an optionally substituted alkyl group or a polymer, provided that both R^4 are not -H;

R^6 is -H, optionally substituted alkyl or optionally substituted alkynyl;

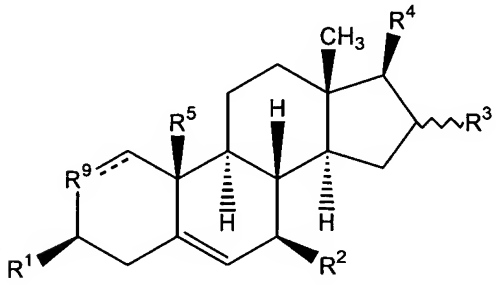
R^9 is -CHR^{10}-, -O-, -S- or -NH- where R^{10} is -H, -OH, =O, -SH, =S, a halogen, an ester, an ether, a carbamate, a carbamate, a thioacetal or a thioether; and

R^{PR} independently are a protecting group.

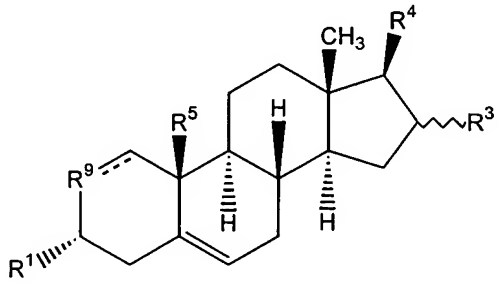
30. (new): The method of claim 29 wherein the innate immune suppression condition is associated with a chemotherapy, radiation therapy or aging.

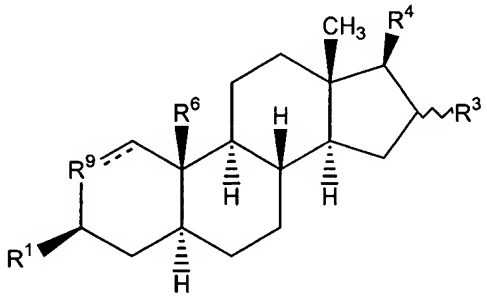
31. (new): The method of claim 30 wherein the innate immune suppression condition is associated with radiation therapy.

32. (new): The method of claim 31 wherein the compound has the structure



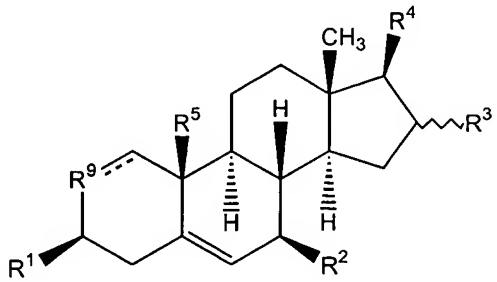
,





or

33. (new): The method of claim 31 wherein the compound has the structure



34. (new): The method of claim 33 wherein R^1 is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a carbamate or a carbonate.

35. (new): The method of claim 33 wherein R^3 is -F, -Cl, -Br, -I, -OH,=O, -SH, =S, an ester, an ether, a thioester, a thioacetal or a thioether.

36. (new): The method of claim 34 wherein R^4 is -OH, =O, -SH, =S, an ester, a phosphate ester or an ether.

37. (new): The method of claim 36 wherein R^2 is -OH, =O, an ester or an ether.

38. (new): The method of claim 36 wherein R^3 is -OH, =O, an ester or an ether and R^2 is -H, -OH, =O or an ester.

39. (new): The method of claim 31 wherein the compound is 3β,17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3α,17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 16α-fluoro-17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 16α-fluoro-17α-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 16α-fluoro-17-oxoandrost-5-ene, 3β,7β,17β-trihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3α,7β,17β-trihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3β,16β,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3α,16β,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3β,16α,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3α,16α,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3β,16β-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane, 3β,16α-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane, 3α,16α-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane or 3α,16β-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane.

40. (new): The method of claim 39 wherein the compound is 3β,17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene.

41. (new): The method of claim 29 wherein the innate immune suppression condition is associated with a chemotherapy or aging.

42. (new): The method of claim 41 wherein the compound is 3β,17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3α,17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 16α-fluoro-17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 16α-fluoro-17α-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 16α-fluoro-17-oxoandrost-5-ene, 3β,7β,17β-trihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3α,7β,17β-trihydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3β,16β,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3α,16β,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3β,16α,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3α,16α,17β-trihydroxyandrostane, 3β,16β-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane, 3β,16α-

dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane, 3α,16α-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane or 3α,16β-dihydroxy-17-oxoandrostane.

43. (new): The method of claim 42 wherein the compound is 3β,17β-dihydroxyandrost-5-ene.

5